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| APPLICATION NO.                    | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR  | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.    | CONFIRMATION NO. |
| 10/517,544                         | 06/09/2005  | Yoshihide Hayashizaki | 035576/285978          | 9999             |
| 826                                | 7590        | 07/01/2009            | EXAMINER               |                  |
| ALSTON & BIRD LLP                  |             |                       | BERTAGNA, ANGELA MARIE |                  |
| BANK OF AMERICA PLAZA              |             |                       | ART UNIT               | PAPER NUMBER     |
| 101 SOUTH TRYON STREET, SUITE 4000 |             |                       | 1637                   |                  |
| CHARLOTTE, NC 28280-4000           |             |                       | MAIL DATE              |                  |
|                                    |             |                       | 07/01/2009             |                  |
|                                    |             |                       | DELIVERY MODE          |                  |
|                                    |             |                       | PAPER                  |                  |

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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|--|--|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Advisory Action</b><br><b>Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief</b>  |  | Application No.<br>10/517,544 | Applicant(s)<br>HAYASHIZAKI ET AL. |
|  |  | Examiner<br>ANGELA BERTAGNA   | Art Unit<br>1637                   |
| <p><b>– The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address –</b></p> <p>THE REPLY FILED <b>19 June 2009</b> FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.</p> <p>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:</p> <p>a) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The period for reply expires <u>4</u> months from the mailing date of the final rejection.</p> <p>b) <input type="checkbox"/> The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.</p> <p>Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). <b>ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION.</b> See MPEP 706.07(f).</p> <p>Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).</p> <p><b>NOTICE OF APPEAL</b></p> <p>2. <input type="checkbox"/> The Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).</p> <p><b>AMENDMENTS</b></p> <p>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will <u>not</u> be entered because</p> <p>(a) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);</p> <p>(b) <input type="checkbox"/> They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);</p> <p>(c) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or</p> <p>(d) <input type="checkbox"/> They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.</p> <p>NOTE: _____. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).</p> <p>4. <input type="checkbox"/> The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).</p> <p>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____. </p> <p>6. <input type="checkbox"/> Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).</p> <p>7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> will not be entered, or b) <input type="checkbox"/> will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.</p> <p>The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:</p> <p>Claim(s) allowed: _____.<br/>   Claim(s) objected to: <u>10, 12, 17, 23 and 24</u>.<br/>   Claim(s) rejected: <u>9, 10, 12-17, 19-25, 57 and 58</u>.<br/>   Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: <u>34-51</u>.</p> <p><b>AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE</b></p> <p>8. <input type="checkbox"/> The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will <u>not</u> be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).</p> <p>9. <input type="checkbox"/> The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will <u>not</u> be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome <u>all</u> rejections under appeal and/or appellant fail to provide a showing a good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).</p> <p>10. <input type="checkbox"/> The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.</p> <p><b>REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER</b></p> <p>11. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:<br/> <u>See Continuation Sheet</u></p> <p>12. <input type="checkbox"/> Note the attached <i>Information Disclosure Statement(s)</i>. (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s). _____</p> <p>13. <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____.</p> <p>/GARY BENZION/<br/>   Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1637</p> |  |                               |                                    |

Continuation of 3a. The proposed amendment raises new issues that would require further consideration and/or searching, and therefore, it has not been entered. Specifically, independent claims 9, 12, and 17 have been amended to require preparing a nucleic acid corresponding to the 5' most end of an mRNA. This structural limitation has not been previously presented in the body of the claim, and therefore, the proposed amendment requires further search and consideration. Also, independent claims 9, 12, and 17 have been amended to require attaching a linker to the end corresponding to the 5' most end of the mRNA in the nucleic acid. This limitation has not been previously presented, and therefore, it requires further search and consideration. The recitation "corresponding to the 5' most end of the mRNA in the nucleic acid" also presents a new issue under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, since the phrase "of the mRNA in the nucleic acid" is confusing. Finally, the amendment to claim 24 presents a new issue under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, because the newly recited phrase "selected from the group comprising" is an improper Markush group whose members cannot be readily identified.

Continuation of 11, does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: Applicant's arguments filed on June 19, 2009 are directed to the claims as amended. Since the amendment was not entered, these arguments are moot. Claims 9, 10, 12-17, 19-25, 57, and 58 remain rejected for the reasons set forth in the final rejection mailed on February 19, 2009.